

B. Cotton



THE LOG

T O C H W O M E N ' S A S S O C I A T I O N

March-April 1962

1/-

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THE LOG

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ORDERS—

To Miss W. Adams at Crutched Friars House
MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION—
To the Editor, Barbara Vise,

Crutched Friars House, London, E.C.3

CLOSING DATE FOR COPY:

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MARCH-APRIL, 1962

SOMEONE sent a letter to THE LOG . . .

Not enough people do that.

Members send paragraphs for *Notes and News* and special articles and photographs and drawings and take a lively interest in what goes on. But lately the letters—which offer a platform where you can voice opinion, put forward argument for this or that, show the *thinking* of the Movement—have fallen off, just like the leaves from the trees in winter.

Well, now the Spring is here, perhaps they are about to bud again and a good correspondence will blossom out.

The letter I mentioned I have answered personally—but it held a sentence which suggested that the magazine should carry “more articles, both theoretical and practical, on the burning social problems of the day and how they are being tackled by Toc H”.

Now, if you ask for the moon, you should make some effort to grab it for yourself . . . Who is going to be the next member to have a stab at such an article?

You will find two features in this number—two, at least—which deal with such problems: on page 34 (just turn over to it) and on page 48. There have been others—plenty of them—over the years in this magazine. But if you want to show how Toc H is dealing with them, then isn't it right to ask the members to supply news of such matters? This magazine, as I have underlined more than once, is not just what *I* can make it but what you, the whole membership of the Women's Association, *plus* the Editor can produce between us.

It is a joint job.

And one which I enjoy. But don't you begin to think it is an *easy* job for me, any more than for you; so sit down and write a letter about one of these “burning social problems” and tell us how your Branch is handling something that you sometimes think is almost too hot to tackle . . .

You *do* tackle so much—and once women are determined to get done something they think is right, there is no holding them. They go at it like tigers. Sometimes I think women in this country are a bit slow at *getting* going but that is only an initial fault . . .

One of the easiest things in the world is to grumble and do nothing—that won't do for members and it won't do much for THE LOG . . . and I would like a LOT more done for THE LOG this year that only you, the members, can do for *your* magazine.

Editor: BARBARA VISE

“ THE ROAD BACK ”

is the title of the cover picture on the Report—for the year ended March 31st, 1961—of the National Association of Discharged Prisoners' Aid Societies. Below we publish excerpts from the Report to give Toc H Women's Association members a picture of what is being done and some idea of what wants doing . . .

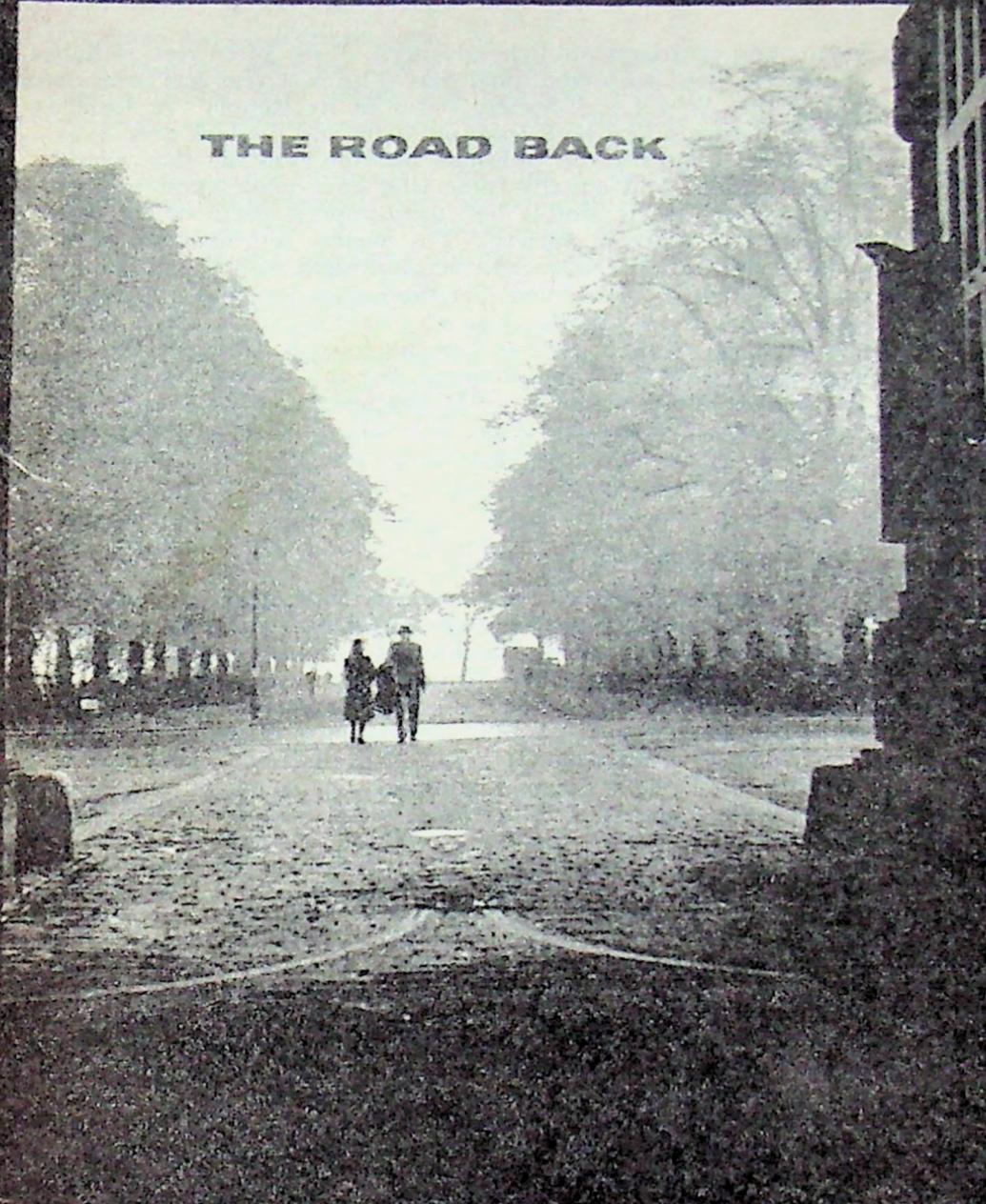
PITY for “all prisoners and captives” is a quality written into the Christian way of life. In earlier days it was personified to the common man by St. Leonard of Noblac, the patron Saint of prisoners, after whom the headquarters of this Association is named. In more recent times this quality has found practical expression in the formation of groups of philanthropists who have pledged themselves to ameliorate conditions of captivity or to assist ex-prisoners to re-enter Society on their release. For those who understand (which implies that they both know and care) that call still exists to service in what Lord Longford has described as “this most neglected corner of the Welfare State”.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT 1961

The new Criminal Justice Act (which received the Royal Assent on 19th July, 1961) contains provisions for increasing the categories of prison sentence carrying compulsory supervision on release, and correspondingly decreasing the number of those eligible for after care with whom this Movement is concerned. So far as can be calculated, when all the proposed categories have been transferred (which cannot be until a sufficient number of probation officers has been appointed) there will still remain some 30,000 men and women discharged annually from our prisons who will look to the Voluntary Movement for help in their problems. Meanwhile the number of prisoners discharged in 1960 for whose aid or after care the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Movement was responsible, reached a new peak of 40,223 compared with 39,867 (1959) and 33,250 (1955).

AFTER CARE ENQUIRY

Penal reform seldom features in election addresses and national interest in the problems of the discharged prisoner only “surfaces” on such legislative occasions as this new Act. Debate and publication then engender considerable feeling and the argu-



THE ROAD BACK

**REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
DISCHARGED PRISONERS' AID SOCIETIES**

1961

ments and criticisms publicly advanced all too often rest on half truths coloured with emotional bias. The past year has been no exception. As a Local Society states in its Report "A Society of this nature suffers both from publicity and the lack of it. It is, of course, impossible to publicize our successes for that would identify them, and equally those who have made good are unlikely to tell their stories lest they imperil their newly won security and place in Society". The Society respects the truism that rehabilitation can only be accomplished with the assistance of the individual concerned. Yet those who are most voluble in their criticism are usually those who have made no constructive contribution to their own welfare but have expected everything they have asked for to be provided. For this reason the Council of the National Association of Discharged Prisoners' Aid Societies welcomes the decision of the Secretary of State to commission an investigation into these matters by the Advisory Council on the Treatment of Offenders.

THE VOLUNTARY MOVEMENT

While some Societies have been successful in raising money it becomes increasingly evident that the existing financial and administrative arrangements could not for much longer maintain this work to modern standards, and that "while these are explicable by historical analysis their continuation could not be advocated on grounds of administrative simplicity or practical convenience" (Maxwell Report). The Council nevertheless believes that the traditional voluntary management principles can provide a service of the calibre needed, and that the Voluntary Movement has a specific aptitude for so doing. It is equally agreed that the problem must be viewed from a standpoint of effectiveness in which any nostalgic desire to maintain the *status quo* for its own sake must be abandoned.

MAXWELL REPORT IMPLEMENTATION

After consultation with its affiliated Local Societies the Association has drafted its views for submission to the Advisory Council. Much of this evidence must, of course, embody our experience in implementing the proposals of the previous departmental enquiry into after care—the Maxwell Committee of 1953. The pilot scheme then devised for the appointment of four social workers in local prisons has since been developed into a comprehensive Prison Welfare Service of 46 prison welfare officers (including 5 senior posts) with appropriate clerical assistance, serving 31 prisons, and there is every promise that the entire programme will be completed as planned before the end of 1961.

WOMEN WELFARE OFFICERS

The selection of the first woman social worker for duty in a men's prison has already justified an imaginative decision. Although misgivings have been expressed by some prison officers at this invasion of a traditionally male field (in this country) it is evident that appropriately qualified women of suitable temperament and personality have particular qualities to offer in this capacity, especially for the consideration of domestic difficulties, and this appointment has since been followed by a further six.

PRISON WELFARE SERVICE

Experience has shown that the building of a Service of this kind involves far more than advertising conditions of service and awaiting a flow of applicants. With many competing claims for the services of competent social workers, well qualified candidates have been reluctant to commit themselves to an unknown future until the Service has established a reputation. Regrettably some potential pioneers appear to have held back because the working conditions did not reach that degree of perfection to which they felt entitled, disregarding the challenge that they might be the very people whose experience and knowledge could have helped to establish such conditions. Nevertheless, as the opportunities have become more widely known, so has the standard of application improved. The year has seen an increase in the number of candidates with Local Government welfare experience, and the proportion of appointees with University degrees or social work diplomas in addition to practical experience has been maintained at about 45 per cent.

RECRUITMENT OF LOCAL SOCIETY STAFFS

The Local Societies have been actively concerned, with the encouragement of the National Association and the Prison Commissioners, with their changing functions as "After Care" rather than "Aid" Societies. By the end of 1960 all except five were operating from offices independent of the prisons, and these will follow as prison welfare officers are appointed. As the number of men and women referred for after care increases so the demands on the Local Societies' staffs become heavier. A number of these officers have now visited the National headquarters for short periods of instruction. Insufficient recognition has been given to the difficulties of Local Society Committees in recruiting staffs. The Societies are still considerably handicapped by their inability to offer adequate salaries and conditions in respect of which negotiations with the Prison Commissioners have now been continuing for over two years without finality.

VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATES

Recruitment by the Societies of voluntary Associates, prepared to advise and befriend ex-prisoners in their own home areas, has

been pressed forward steadily until there are now available some 250 voluntary workers drawn from all walks of life, many of them already committed to the spirit of voluntary service through other well-known organizations. The befriending of those who have passed through our prison system calls for qualities of sympathy and understanding which themselves need cultivation and guidance in this special field, and the Council plans to meet the need of opportunities for these Associates to discuss their problems and to benefit from the experience already gained by others in analogous fields of service.

EMPLOYMENT

The need for employment must, as always, be a first priority of ex-prisoners and during the present period of full employment it is one of the less difficult aspects of rehabilitation—except for the difficult minority of ex-prisoners from the professional classes. The register of “co-operative” employers maintained by the Association’s Metropolitan Welfare Office now contains the names of over 600 such employers prepared to offer permanent, reasonably paid and acceptable employment. This has resulted in some 20 ex-prisoners a week being placed in employment by an “honest broker” arrangement. A lesser but not unimportant service is the provision of toilet equipment and the means for an ex-prisoner to obtain a “wash and brush up” before applying for a job. The reputation of our employment service has even brought enquiries from prison officers anxious for suitable “retirement” openings!

LIAISON

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that this work of rehabilitation is essentially a team enterprise calling for close co-operation between each specialized agency, voluntary and statutory. As the field of our co-operative friends and agencies widens, it becomes more difficult to acknowledge the contribution made by each. The National Assistance Board, Ministry of Labour, National Council of Social Service, Women’s Voluntary Service, Salvation Army, Church Army, Probation Service, National Association of Prison Visitors, Toc H and Alcoholics Anonymous are examples of organizations with whom we are in day to day contact on a country-wide basis. Many others, such as the New Bridge, Norman House, Langley House, the Blackfriars Settlement, are more generally known to us in a Metropolitan connection. And throughout the country there exist men and women of goodwill whose names we do not know, quietly helping this Cause by their practical compassion. To all these we express our grateful appreciation.

“NEIGHBOUR”

ON November 14 there passed to her rest a very gentle lady—Frances Stevenson. One of the earliest members of L.W.H. she joined in the City in 1923, when she was working in the Custom House.

Miss Macfie tells me she acquired the nickname of “neighbour” when she became such a good neighbour to “New June” and All Hallows and helped in endless ways. We first met her during the last war years when she came to live in Cheltenham and she was in contact with Cheltenham Branch on and off wherever she happened to be.

At one time she took on housekeeping at one of the Marks so that the official housekeeper could have a holiday. Later she became a “general member” and went to live at Evesham.

About five years ago she returned to Cheltenham and lived in The “Lilian Faithfull” residential home where members of Cheltenham Branch visited her. By this time she had become crippled with arthritis and finally had to take to her bed, but through it all she maintained a lively interest in Toc H. We will indeed “Remember her”.

E. DEAN-POULTON

Suggested **THEMES** for New Branches

(Quoted from Oxford & Thames Valley Area News-sheet,
No. 5)

1. **GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER**
Meeting in each other's homes, learning how each member lives, and so learning how they think.
2. **GETTING TO KNOW TOC H**
Learning the traditions of Toc H, but also looking to the present and the future.
Gaining an insight of the work and set-up of the District Team.
Exploring Toc H literature and the workings of Toc H finances.
A Quiz Game is strongly recommended as an enjoyable means of gaining information on all Toc H matters.
3. **GETTING TO KNOW YOUR LOCALITY**
Finding out all you can yourselves about the community and having Speakers from local council, police, and fire-brigade.

RUSSIAN EXCHANGE

DOROTHY W. HOMER, Secretary of The Women's Group on Public Welfare, describes what happened when a party of women went to Russia last summer . . .

IT started in 1958 when the Joint Conference between the Women's Group on Public Welfare and the Standing Conferences of Women's Organizations passed a resolution which they addressed to themselves. Addressing a resolution to oneself rather than to "those in authority" has much to recommend it. It is like tying a knot in your handkerchief as a reminder that something needs doing.

In this case, women's organizations, both locally and nationally, "agreed to establish, through personal contacts and in other ways open to them, a deeper understanding with people of different races".

Early in 1960, the Women's Group decided to extend an invitation to a party of Russian women to visit us. The alarms and excursions that preceded the arrival of the six Russian women who eventually came as guests of the Women's Group and the National Council of Women for two weeks in October, 1960, would need a chapter in themselves. It is enough to say that twelve guests were invited for three weeks and four days before their date of arrival we heard it was to be six visitors for two weeks and arriving a week later than arranged. In spite of the nervous prostration of the programme planners, I think the visit was a great success.

Then in June, 1961, a delegation from the Women's Group and the National Council of Women made a return visit to the Soviet Union and I was one of the fortunate ones chosen to represent the Women's Group.

Our itinerary covered Moscow, Leningrad, Tbilisi and Batumi on the Black Sea and we travelled thousands of miles by train, aeroplane and car.

To me the highlight in Moscow was the Bolshoi Ballet, which we saw twice, and the Kremlin. We were taken over a watch factory, the one where we were told Gagarin's watch for "outer space" was made. Here production was stopped while white-capped girls presented us with armfuls of flowers and little speeches were made about "peace and friendship".



Moscow view

*Photograph by courtesy of the Embassy
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*

The Deputy Mayor of the Moscow Soviet, a woman, invited us to meet her, together with the heads of some of the Commissions, with whom we were able to hear something about the

Moscow building projects, the educational and health services and social security. We went over Moscow University, visited a Pioneer Camp—these camps are for the 7 to 15-year-olds, boys and girls—and had an opportunity to visit the Friendship University, an educational establishment where young people from Asian, African and Latin American countries come to study, their fares to and from the country of origin and their keep while in the U.S.S.R. being paid for by the Soviet Government. It has now been re-christened after Patrice Lumumba.

L ENINGRAD is a city of graciousness and charm, with its beautiful palaces on the river front, the slender golden spire rising above the St. Peter and Paul fortress and the Hermitage housing one of the most magnificent museums. It was hard to believe that the city survived 900 days of siege in the last war when much of it was reduced to rubble. We visited a porcelain factory, watched a young couple being married in the white and gold ballroom of the "Palace of Marriages" and attended an "end of school party" of what appeared to be a mixed "secondary modern" type of school. A delightful afternoon was spent at the Savina Home for retired theatre people, elderly actors and actresses, ballet dancers and variety performers. My chief memory is of an old actor, declaiming passages from "Richard III" while we had tea, and expecting us to complete each quotation.

From Leningrad we set off in a Russian aeroplane on a 2,000-mile journey to Tbilisi, the capital of the Republic of Georgia, which culminated in superb views of the snow-capped Caucasus as we flew over them.

Tbilisi is fascinating, set in a ring of hills, but was very hot. While in Georgia we were aware of a republic with its own language and a strong national consciousness. Here we appeared on television in discussion with a Georgian poetess, who had lived many years in England. We were swept before the cameras after a whirlwind journey in open cars up the mountainside without even an opportunity to put a comb through our hair, our only consolation being that reception appeared very poor!

From here began the most congested 36 hours of our visit: a night in sleepers travelling to Batumi where we arrived, not at our best, at 6 a.m. to be met by a group of local dignitaries and a posse of Pioneers all clasping bouquets which were presented to us, about four each, which made welcoming hand-shaking most difficult; a drive to an hotel, a bathe, and then breakfast before starting the usual tour of the city, beautiful with its avenues of magnolia trees and its semi-tropical vegetation and exotic flowers; then a visit to a sanatorium; a swift

walk through a botanical garden and a drive to tea plantations, with a visit to a tea factory and on to a collective farm. There at 4.30 p.m. we sat down to a Georgian "banquet", no other word describes it, and perhaps it was intentional that our last meal had been breakfast! After innumerable toasts and speeches it came to an end and we returned to our hotel and supper with a woman dentist. We then boarded the train again for Tbilisi, arriving in time for breakfast. The next day we returned by jet to Moscow—a 2½-hour flight, but by train three days.

TO me—indeed I am sure to all six of us—this had been an unforgettable experience. We had "been to Russia" and met the Russian people. What are the impressions I have been left with? First, I think, friendliness. This we met everywhere, a little overwhelming at the hotel at Batumi, where the chambermaid, on learning we were English, threw her arms round our necks calling us "my darlings".

Next, the continual emphasis, in all contacts we made, on "peace and friendship". In factory, in hospital, old people's home and school we were greeted with speeches on this theme: a small Pioneer on one occasion besought us "for the sake of all children everywhere—no more war"; and in general conversation the question "Why war?" would be sure to be asked. Our reply that no country and no people anywhere wanted war, was usually received in what one might call "unbelieving silence".

We were impressed by all that was shown to us and, quite naturally, we were taken to see the best of everything, but even a Soviet planned programme is not proof against mistakes and our hostesses could laugh when we arrived at the wrong hospital or had to enter Moscow through what they called "the back door" over appalling roads.

Finally, the outstanding impression is of a busy, lively people and, if the attitude of our guides and those others we met was general, a people genuinely proud of their country's economic efforts.

We did not often encounter political argument but when we did I think we stood our ground. Perhaps it is interesting to note that among the gifts we took with us was a facsimile of Magna Carta.

However, our aim was to try to increase understanding and trust between individuals in our different countries and for this reason we were happy to meet so many who shared our interests in such things as education, health and welfare and to build on common interests. Perhaps such small beginnings may lead us some little way towards the path of peace.



Melsetter, S. Rhodesia, and a typical view of the countryside

“Kalahari Kate”

This is a tale of two women and a Land Rover. One of the women is European, the other African. They drive the car some 1,000 miles a month in the outlying rural areas in the Eastern Districts of Southern Rhodesia, and their aim is to give some basic education to the African women there. IRENE POCOCK tells us of her recent experience in this work

THERE is little to connect the Kalahari Desert with the Eastern Districts of Southern Rhodesia. However, the Land Rover in which Colonel Laurens Van der Post travelled successfully in search of the almost extinct Bushmen, now, through his generous donation, is gaining further renown in Rhodesia. “Kalahari Kate”, as we affectionately call her, is the first Mobile Unit of the Capricorn Africa Society. Capricorn members in Melsetter, black and white, believed that there was

a vital need to bring instruction in domestic efficiency and elementary citizenship to African women of the outlying rural areas and African reserves. "Kalahari Kate" and her team was their answer.

IN Rhodesian towns there are flourishing African Women's Clubs but in the more remote areas such clubs are rare. As there is little contact with the outside world, life in the reserves is still rather raw, and domestic efficiency is comparatively undeveloped. Water has to be carried from the nearest stream, often some distance from the houses. Wood has to be collected for the open fires that are used for cooking. Washing is done in streams or rivers. Mealies, which produce the staple diet, are cultivated by hand. Few of the women have any hope of getting away from this life or gaining even a basic education.

The Mobile Unit has a team of two, and when I joined it last year shortly after my co-worker, Mrs. Ngungunyana, it had

The song that ends the meetings . . .



already been in operation for six months. The work entails driving some 1,000 miles a month into the reserves over the roughest of roads. Our home base is Melsetter, a small village in the foothills of the Chimanimani Mountains, which divide Rhodesia from Portuguese Mozambique. Communities are visited once a month, and we encourage the women to meet each week in our absence. This very largely depends on the group leader and her ability to organize. The leader is also responsible for seeing that each woman contributes a penny per visit towards the running expenses of the unit. These contributions are tiny in relation to our expenses, but they are willingly given, and help to discourage any ideas of getting something for nothing.

I had never done work of this kind before, though I had run a daily medical clinic for Arabs when I lived in the Trucial Oman of Arabia. I wondered if I would be able to cope. I do not think that Mrs. Ngungunyana had any such qualms: she had been Chairman of an African Homecraft Club for twelve years in our nearest big town, Umtali. A plentiful supply of visual aid charts and stereotyped lectures on hygiene and food values is available, with much talk of vitamins and calories. I realized that they were too complicated. Attention wandered and we seemed to be wide of the mark. I then wrote a series of talks on how to clean a house, make a bed, and so on, but was not entirely satisfied, as the last thing I wanted was to talk down to people. Eventually I found what I wanted, a book of short stories on the lines of *Brer Rabbit*, with a moral to them. These stories are listened to with rapt attention, for Africans love a story. The hero of these stories is "Kalulu the Hare, the Wisest Animal in the Forest". He is a model parent. His obsession for hygiene, health and good manners is well balanced by his sense of humour, which is fully employed when he points out to other animals the folly of their primitive ways.

AFTER the stories we give a cooking demonstration. Deliberately I use only inexpensive ingredients and the simplest equipment. It is quite possible to roast and bake in a three-legged iron pot over an open fire. I use as many different recipes as possible, usually with a mealie meal base, to try and satisfy the African husband's ever-increasing demand for variety in his food.

Sewing and knitting is demonstrated by Mrs. Ngungunyana, who has won many prizes for her needlework. She teaches em-

broidery, smocking and crochet-work, as well as practical dress-making. We find that once the imagination has been caught by a new stitch, there is greater enthusiasm to get down to the more mundane stitching needed by every family.

WE visit twenty-two groups and are reluctant to form many more as it would be difficult to fit them into our touring schedule. The groups vary in size, some have only about twelve members, others have over fifty, but attendance is remarkably high. Such is the keenness to learn that a few women walk over seven miles each way to our meetings. Time, however, means very little to Africans, even the few who possess watches. We have arrived for a meeting to find either no one there, or one or two enthusiasts who have told us the others had left to cultivate their fields. They had waited so long that they had decided we were not coming. Imagine the surprise when we said that far from being late we were some fifteen minutes early. This often happens on an over-cast day when there is no sun by which to judge the time.

The people we work among lead the unsophisticated life that goes with a primitive background. They love a joke, and are always courteous, hospitable and incredibly generous. We are showered with fruit and vegetables at each place. Already they have begun to use Western ways, mainly as a result of the work of the Mission Stations, for whose help to the Unit we are ever grateful. Many of our meetings start with a prayer and a hymn, but end with a song, the rhythm and accompaniment of clapping of which is wholly African. Our task is not to destroy the old life, but to bring those new ideas that will improve it. We must exercise all our patience, ingenuity and common sense if we are to succeed in helping African women to become better housewives and citizens, without their losing their own individual character.

AFTER MIDSUMMER

look forward to the

TOC H WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

HOLIDAY WEEK

at Philipps House, Dinton, near

Salisbury—August 11th - 18th, 1962



AND ANOTHER . . . Done for

(From the Annual Report, 1961, of The National Old People's Welfare Council)

NUTRITION

THE Council has long felt that the nutritional needs of the elderly require special attention and has pressed in several quarters for an Advisory Group to be set up for this purpose. Last year the Nutrition Society kindly arranged a symposium on the subject and a paper read by Mrs. D. Newman, M.A., outlined the problems met with in social work among the elderly. As an outcome of this meeting the British Medical Society for Research into Ageing set up an informal group, representative of both medical and social interests, to inquire into the present situation with a view to the establishment of a permanent Advisory Group at some future date should this

A GOOD JOB . . .

—carried out by a 94-year-old

This is Mrs. Annie Hall, aunt of a Sudbury Branch member. She is 94 years old. She did all the knitting for six blankets which were sold at the Branch's Autumn Fair. She has been knitting blanket squares for Toc H for four years now and during that time has done over 2,000 squares. Some of these have gone to B.E.L.R.A. The Fair was the Branch's Special Effort and £65 was sent to Headquarters.

PAT BARTER

Photograph by R. BURNS, Sudbury

Old People's Welfare

prove desirable. The Council welcomed this action and has been pleased to note that Mrs. Newman has been invited to take part in the initial discussions.

The future of meals services has reached a crucial stage. The recently published report of the survey carried out in 1958 on behalf of the National Corporation for the Care of Old People shows that few mobile meals services deliver more than twice weekly to individual elderly people. If the service is to be adequate an increase of 85% is estimated to be necessary. Legislation is under consideration to give local authorities power to provide meals services directly. Extension of present services is clearly needed, though this might be effectively carried out by

increased grants to voluntary schemes under the powers which already exist under the National Assistance Act.

The report was particularly concerned with mobile meals services for the housebound. One hot meal a day at a nearby lunch club or at a social club offering a mid-day meal could be a boon to many elderly people who find shopping and cooking difficult, or who live alone and who would enjoy companionship at mealtimes. Clubs where meals are available are increasing in number, but too slowly to meet the need.

It is accepted that good health plays a strategic part in the maintenance of independence, especially among the elderly, and it is important in providing services for them that the basic contribution to this end by sound and adequate nutrition is not overlooked.

Frozen meals and dehydrated foods are being used to a very small extent by some voluntary bodies. At present these foods are expensive and the range of choice is limited, but suppliers are working on the production of smaller quantities at lower prices. This type of food, which needs little preparation, may be valuable in the future both for luncheon clubs and for domiciliary services.

“WE WILL REMEMBER”



HILDA LUNDQUIST—*Brussels*. 12.3.48—14.11.61
DOROTHY WHITTLE—*Builder (Portsmouth)*. 20.4.60
—3.12.61
MARION (MARIE) GUEST—*Poole*. 8.1.40—23.12.61
A. M. (JANE) JACKSON—*Carshalton & Wallington*. 9.11.36
—31.12.61
LILIAN KEATES—*Leytonstone*. 14.3.40—16.12.61
E. (GIBBIE) GIBSON—*Welwyn Garden City*. 31.12.32
—17.12.61
MABEL STEVENTON—*Eastbourne*. 1.6.38—7.1.62
A. E. DEW—*Poole*. ————6.1.62
MRS. RODGERS—*St. Austell*. 9.5.49—12.61
ADA WINIFRED THACKER—*Newcastle, Staffs*. 10.10.58
—28.11.61
BERYL GREENWOOD—*Kendal*. 20.5.52—19.1.62
FRANCES STEVENSON—*Cheltenham*. —10.23—14.11.61
HELEN MAUD SPILLER—*Hastings & St. Leonards*. 15.8.60
—4.12.61

PADRE

FOR twelve years the Rev. Harry Graydon acted as Padre of the Woodford Branch of the Toc H Women's Association, and it was typical of him that he never allowed this office to become a sinecure. At all times he was a true friend to whom we could turn. His visits to the Branch were always a joy, for whether he talked, led a discussion or conducted a Service of Re-dedication, he gave inspiration to all.

As well as serving the local Branch, Mr. Graydon very willingly took part in Thanksgiving Services on the occasions of National and Regional Festivals of Toc H Women's Association, joining in procession with other Padres and sometimes reading the lesson or leading the prayers. Once at least he conducted a Communion Service at All Hallows, the Guild Church of Toc H. This took place in the Porch Room, a Chapel in the tower of the church, which is used by Non-Conformist members.

Mr. Graydon was Padre of the Women's Branch, but of course he was well known to Toc H men too, and the whole Family of Toc H in Woodford has sustained a great loss.

The Main Resolution of Toc H (which sets out the aims of the Movement) begins with the words "Remembering with gratitude". When we in Woodford Toc H join in the Ceremony of Light (and at many other times), we shall remember with gratitude Padre Graydon, giving thanks for all he has meant to us, to his family and to the Church he served.

ELSIE WISEMAN

KEEP IN TOUCH—YOU CAN'T DO IT
PROPERLY UNLESS YOU READ, AND
SOMETIMES CONTRIBUTE TO,

The Log

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The report was particularly concerned with mobile meals services for the housebound. One hot meal a day at a nearby lunch club or at a social club offering a mid-day meal could be a boon to many elderly people who find shopping and cooking difficult, or who live alone and who would enjoy companionship at mealtimes. Clubs where meals are available are increasing in number, but too slowly to meet the need.

It is accepted that good health plays a strategic part in the maintenance of independence, especially among the elderly, and it is important in providing services for them that the basic contribution to this end by sound and adequate nutrition is not overlooked.

Frozen meals and dehydrated foods are being used to a very small extent by some voluntary bodies. At present these foods are expensive and the range of choice is limited, but suppliers are working on the production of smaller quantities at lower prices. This type of food, which needs little preparation, may be valuable in the future both for luncheon clubs and for domiciliary services.

“WE WILL REMEMBER”



HILDA LUNDQUIST—*Brussels*. 12.3.48—14.11.61
DOROTHY WHITTLE—*Builder (Portsmouth)*. 20.4.60
—3.12.61
MARION (MARIE) GUEST—*Poole*. 8.1.40—23.12.61
A. M. (JANE) JACKSON—*Carshalton & Wallington*. 9.11.36
—31.12.61
LILIAN KEATES—*Leytonstone*. 14.3.40—16.12.61
E. (GIBBIE) GIBSON—*Welwyn Garden City*. 31.12.32
—17.12.61
MABEL STEVENTON—*Eastbourne*. 1.6.38—7.1.62
A. E. DEW—*Poole*. —. —. —. —. 6.1.62
MRS. RODGERS—*St. Austell*. 9.5.49— —. 12.61
ADA WINIFRED THACKER—*Newcastle, Staffs*. 10.10.58
—28.11.61
BERYL GREENWOOD—*Kendal*. 20.5.52—19.1.62
FRANCES STEVENSON—*Cheltenham*. —. 10.23—14.11.61
HELEN MAUD SPILLER—*Hastings & St. Leonards*. 15.8.60
—4.12.61

PADRE

FOR twelve years the Rev. Harry Graydon acted as Padre of the Woodford Branch of the Toc H Women's Association, and it was typical of him that he never allowed this office to become a sinecure. At all times he was a true friend to whom we could turn. His visits to the Branch were always a joy, for whether he talked, led a discussion or conducted a Service of Re-dedication, he gave inspiration to all.

As well as serving the local Branch, Mr. Graydon very willingly took part in Thanksgiving Services on the occasions of National and Regional Festivals of Toc H Women's Association, joining in procession with other Padres and sometimes reading the lesson or leading the prayers. Once at least he conducted a Communion Service at All Hallows, the Guild Church of Toc H. This took place in the Porch Room, a Chapel in the tower of the church, which is used by Non-Conformist members.

Mr. Graydon was Padre of the Women's Branch, but of course he was well known to Toc H men too, and the whole Family of Toc H in Woodford has sustained a great loss.

The Main Resolution of Toc H (which sets out the aims of the Movement) begins with the words "Remembering with gratitude". When we in Woodford Toc H join in the Ceremony of Light (and at many other times), we shall remember with gratitude Padre Graydon, giving thanks for all he has meant to us, to his family and to the Church he served.

ELSIE WISEMAN

KEEP IN TOUCH—YOU CAN'T DO IT
PROPERLY UNLESS YOU READ, AND
SOMETIMES CONTRIBUTE TO,

The Log

OVERSEAS

By **ELISABETH WORTH**
Overseas Secretary

CANADIAN members in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, were delighted to welcome the Founder Padre on his recent tour. One, who heard him preach and afterwards greeted him, wrote "it was like a breath of new life to me to see Tubby again".

CENTRAL AFRICA has formed its first District Team in Northern Rhodesia, for the Branches on the Copperbelt, and the Bulawayo Team has divided into two, to look after the ten Branches there. The October Fair, held in Bulawayo, but supported by all Branches, raised £678, and so far the Cookery Book has brought in £135 towards their fund for a full-time member of staff. The main job of Lobengula Branch is work at a large hospital for mental patients which is visited regularly. For the annual Christmas party this year, it was decided to give each patient a box of home-made sweets. Seven members undertook the making of the sweets and filled 185 boxes, suitably decorated, about 20 lbs. were eaten at the party itself, and 20 lbs., which were surplus, were given to the Jarvis Jiri Centre for their own party. Jarvis Jiri is an African philanthopist who runs a community for physically handicapped and blind Africans and the Branch gives him what help it can.

The Chairman of the Branch, started last June in the new town of **ELIZABETH, SOUTH AUSTRALIA**, writes that it is steadily gaining ground. It meets in a school and has affiliated to the Good Neighbour Council, one of its jobs being to visit all new settlers and to welcome them to the town. They also visit a Migrant Hostel and serve afternoon tea, making friends with the new arrivals. "Elizabeth is only six years old and already there are over 24,000 people living here, mostly English, in fact they call it 'Little England'. We have some lovely shopping

centres here, all the shops are in arcades with flowers and trees between, and parking areas around the outside. All the streets are being planted with trees and in a few years' time, when they have grown up the town will look very beautiful." The Branch is causing a good deal of interest so that it seems likely a second one will soon be started. Perhaps a Branch in a new town at home would like to correspond with this Australian one?

(We would like a snapshot of this town for THE LOG—anything coming up?—Editor.)

Letter from Nigeria

DEAR EDITOR,

I am waiting for my husband to arrive back from a one-week tour of clinics in the Oturkpo district. He is one of the Toc H BELRA bods (as they generally call themselves) and he has dumped me off here at the Methodist Teacher's Training College, Oturkpo, and taken four leprosy trainees with him. They are a bit vague about where they will sleep; something about dispensary verandahs. I am very glad to be here, as the Headmaster and his wife are old friends of ours; and also I needed a rest after all that bouncing. It's not like horse-riding which has some rhythm to it; the pot-holes in these roads do not occur at stated intervals; and in a car or Land-Rover it's surprising how often you bounce and how far. Also, clouds of latrine dust envelop the car every time a vehicle goes by in the opposite direction, and after a long journey you feel more like a cement mixer than a human being.

My husband joined Toc H in the desert during the war; then he came out to Nigeria to Itu Leprosy Settlement in 1946, one of the BELRA men. But now he does Leprosy Control work for the Northern Nigerian Government Medical service. I was sent out to Uzuakoli by BELRA; but I have never been a Toc H member; but by the time I return to England we may have been accepted, our new little Toc H Women's Group at Loughton, and we'll maybe soon get our Lamp.

But meantime, I'm just longing for tomorrow, when my husband will arrive here, then we'll have a TOC H MEETING (DIFFERENT KIND).

EDITH A. HUSKINSON
(Written in Nigeria)

NOTES and NEWS



Biscot—Silver Wedding

*Photo by courtesy of Home
Counties Newspapers*

WE welcome the following Schools who have recently become affiliated to Toc H Women's Association:—

Dorchester County School for Girls, Queens Avenue,
Dorchester, Dorset.

Croft House School, Shillingstone, Dorset.

S. Catherine's, Bramley, nr. Guildford, Surrey.

Northern Grammar School for Girls, Mayfield Road, North
End, Portsmouth.

The Grammar School for Girls, Upper Hill Lane, Southamp-
ton.

Stonar, Atworth, nr. Melksham, Wiltshire.

Aldershot County High School, Aldershot, Hampshire.

**WRITE TO THE LOG AS SOON AS YOU
CAN TO SHARE NEWS THAT MAY
GIVE OTHER PEOPLE GOOD IDEAS...**

ST. AUSTELL: We are a small Branch, writes Ethel Kelly, and most of our jobs are among the old people. We visit three Old Folks' Homes in the town where we take a service on Sunday afternoons. Members have been taking a Sunday Service at one of these Homes for over seventeen years. In 1955 we "adopted" a Latvian refugee living in Germany. We take it in turns to write to her and frequently send her food parcels. Our Builders help in this and we run Beetle Drives to raise funds for this purpose and recently Branches in the District have begun to contribute too. We receive such grateful letters of acknowledgement from her. When we first began to write to her, her letters were always written in German, but she has now taught herself enough English to write in our own language—which she does wonderfully well considering that she is over seventy.

KIDSGROVE: One candle lit the cake when this Branch celebrated its first birthday and eighteen members were there to enjoy the party. One of the newspapers reporting the occasion gave the valuable information that this Branch is glad to see anyone who wants to know something about the work it does. A nice boost for local public relations!

BINGHAM: In the midst of our Christmas preparations, reports Norah Clifton, our Men's and Women's Branches joined forces to deliver 120 parcels of $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. tea and 1 lb. of sugar to our Old Folk or people living alone. On Friday, 13th October, we ran a Jumble Sale and raised £30 towards the parcels and the Party we give the village Over 70's in March.

To get the parcels packed the members decided to have their Annual Pork Pie Party on December 14th (our last meeting before Christmas) and instead of entertaining ourselves we packed the parcels. You have never seen such a hive of activity but it gave us all great pleasure.

BISCOT: I am enclosing, writes "Lizzie", a photograph taken at the celebration of the Silver Wedding of one of our members. Those present, except the men, are all members or probationers of the Branch. All silver weddings are remembered in this way. Individual jobs include helping old folks in homes and clubs, helping as Friends of St. Mary's Hospital, running parties and raising funds for local deaf and dumb people as well as our annual help with a fête for the Amphill Cheshire Home. We



Enfield—Knitters

Gorleston—Flout





Cardiff—Window Display *Photo by courtesy of "Western Mail & Echo"*

have just began knitting quilts for a mission for discharged prisoners.

That Toc H Women are good neighbours is shown by the fact that after one member joined us, four neighbours in her own street sought membership within a year or two. Another member brought in three members from her street and another three live a few doors from each other. Talk about Toc H while doing your shopping and whet their appetites.

CARDIFF BRANCH Toc H (W.A.) at Whitsun put a letter in the *South Wales Echo* postbag asking for odd bits of wool to make blankets. The response was so great we were able to make babies' and children's garments as well as many blankets. These garments will be distributed through the Llandaff Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare Work, whose organizing secretary is one of our members. The garments were shown in our local Gas Board Showroom window and the photograph shows members and friends viewing the display.

EASTBOURNE & HAMPDEN PARK announce that their 40th Birthday Anniversary Service will be held at Eastbourne Parish Church on June 27th, 1962, at 7.30 p.m. Address to be given by the Rev. Clifford Pollard, followed by refreshments in the Parsonage.

ENFIELD members have been busy packing parcels of woollies for the local old folks' hospital. The knitters during the year

produced, between them, 36 pairs of bed socks, 9 bed jackets and 9 bed capes, as well as other miscellaneous items. I am pleased to report, writes Dorothy Daniels, that this Branch, which fell seriously in active membership about two years ago, has now increased in strength and we are playing quite an active part in local social work among old folk, blind people and other handicapped persons. We celebrated our 33rd birthday this year.

GORLESTON: In October, the R.A.F. held a Carnival in Gt. Yarmouth, for the Battle of Britain Week, and two Branches entered a decorated float representing Toc H. We were given 3rd place out of nearly 400 vehicles, and were also presented with a scroll of honour, signed by the Mayor. It is a pity it was a nasty rainy day which made it difficult for our photographers.

OSWESTRY: Our members, reports Marion Fenton, were very taken with the idea of a flower bed in the local park to commemorate the 40th Birthday of our Organization, and after negotiation with the Council, agreement has been reached on those lines. Although from an expense point of view we were unable to take up the original idea of having a bed of flowers planted showing the Toc H Lamp we have arranged for a bed of yellow roses to be planted in the Spring. We chose yellow as being the Toc H colour, and we are providing a plaque bearing a suitable inscription which will be displayed among the roses for one year.

SHERBORNE celebrated their 30th Birthday in November and at their Guest Evening—after the Rededication Service in Sherborne Abbey—there were 130 Members and friends.

“WE WILL REMEMBER”

**NOTICES FOR THIS FEATURE SHOULD BE
SENT TO THE
GENERAL SECRETARY
NOT TO THE EDITOR OF “THE LOG”—
PLEASE DO NOT FORGET THIS**



East Midlands Area Week-End

The group above was photographed at Launde Abbey, Leicestershire, last October, where the East Midlands Area Weekend was held. There were twenty-one in the party and Mrs. Gwen Prior was the speaker. The weather was perfect, the Abbey everything we could desire, the company full of good spirits and seven, at least, were under the age of twenty-four, the youngest being nineteen. Gwen Prior gave us two excellent talks and there was plenty of discussion following them. In lighter vein, the young members entertained us with jazz, rock'n' roll and the Charleston, ably done, too, by Gwen. We finished with an Any Questions session and tea on Sunday.

OLIVE CURD

MARION DESCHAMPS describes what happens
when one hundred and thirty old people are
entertained in Paris at Christmas . . .

ALL over the British Isles during the Christmas season and on into the new year, Old Folks' parties will have been in full swing. Some will have been given by the churches; others by the women's organizations.

Here, in Paris, the old people's welfare has always been the special concern of our Toc H Women's Branch. Here, as at home, our Christmas party comes as the culmination of another year. And the hall where it is held, that of the Methodist church in the rue Roquepire, has just the same atmosphere as any such hall at home, decorated, as it is, with garlands and mistletoe, the trestle tables laden with cakes and mince pies, the old people all looking very British.

AND yet, to an onlooker there is something strangely different about this setting, for the rue Roquepire lies in the heart of one of the most expensive districts of Paris, and to reach it the old people must pass through streets lined with sumptuous shops, glittering and elegant.

Different too, if you stop to listen, are the voices, for many of them will be speaking French. This is because, although British-born, most of them have spent nearly all their lives in France and some know no English at all.

This year our party, held on December 16th came, fortunately, just before the cold spell started and we must have had a record number of guests—about 130.

As on previous years, they were greeted at the door by our Chairman, Mrs. Lynch, and entered to the accompaniment of well-loved tunes from Mrs. Hickman who remained almost permanently (happily for us all) at the piano.

from **PARIS . . .**

The gathering was honoured by the presence of Lady Dixon, and entertained by two delightful child ballerinas, by a wonderful rendering of Schubert by Mr. Monteith and Mrs. Hickman's inimitable songs. My only regret, as I watched the rapt faces, was that nobody had a flash.

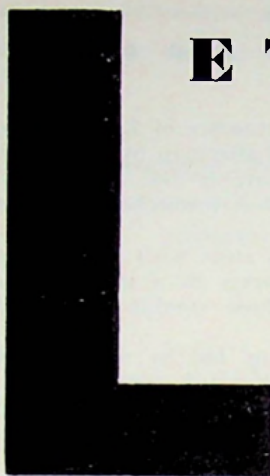
The food parcel that each guest takes away with her or him (although the masculine element is always in a minority) is always greatly appreciated; nor are those unable to attend forgotten.

The afternoon ended by carol singing, led by members of the Embassy church choir, and by a delightful story from Mr. Trebbeek the Methodist minister, followed by the blessing.

Toe II Women's Association

40TH BIRTHDAY EVENTS

<i>March</i>	17th 21st	Service Fayre	Haven District North Wales District
<i>April</i>	6th - 8th	Central Council Meeting	Halliday Hall, Clapham Common, London
	7th	Thanksgiving Service	All Hallows
	27th	Service	Salisbury Plain District
	28th	Service & Family Gathering	Northern Area—Durham
<i>May</i>	5th	Service & Guest Night	Constable Area—Norwich
	19th	Guest Night	Cheltenham
	19th - 20th	Weekend	Scotland Area—Dunblane
	26th	Rally	Herts. & Beds. Area— St. Albans
		Service & Family Gathering	Carlisle/Tyneside— Hexham
<i>July</i>	28th	Garden Party	Darlington
<i>September</i>	29th	Service & Guest Night Service & Festival	Ireland—Belfast Lincolnshire Area— Lincoln
	29th - 30th	Weekend	Northern Area— Scarborough
<i>October</i>	27th	Service & Family Gathering Service & Family Gathering	London Areas Manchester & N.-Western Areas—Liverpool



LETTERS . . .

**FIND YOUR PEN
(OR TYPEWRITER)
AGAIN AND WRITE
TO US—NOW!**

DEAR EDITOR,

This is a letter that should have been written for the previous *Log* but I left it to more skilful pens than mine.

Now I do write because someone must voice the gratitude we feel to Molly Oxenford for her article "Reporting" in the November-December issue. Those of us to whom it falls to explain to probationers how the "wheels go round" have reason to thank her. Indeed, it could be issued as a leaflet to great advantage.

Forgive the handwriting—my typewriter is out of action.

W. F. M. READ
(Glasgow Branch)

DEAR EDITOR,

Re *Log*, January-February, 1962, page 32 and letter from "Smithie & Bunny"—Minnie Dury, therein mentioned, now lives in OLDHAM not Derby.

One other occupant of that railway carriage was an old lady quietly sitting, and occasionally sleeping, in one corner. At the Manchester end of our long journey she spoke for the first time to inform us chatteringers that the Rev. Pat Leonard(!) was once the curate at her church: *Moral*: Wear that badge!

M. LANE

DEAR EDITOR.

At our last West Lanes. District Team Meeting I reported on the blanket Southport Branch had knitted and sent out to "our" Refugee Family in Austria for their Christmas present.

Apparently the blanket has been most gratefully received, particularly as it arrived within a few days of the Zislens' 50th wedding anniversary and they included it among their presents and cake.

I have pleasure in sending the letter of thanks we received for inclusion in *The Log*.

JOYCE TROTT
(Southport)

DEAR MISS WINNIE

Dear Miss Winnie and all the ladies from the Toc H group.

It certainly was a very great and a very very pleasant surprise—your lovely self-knitted blanket for us. It arrived just before our 50th wedding anniversary. So we put it on the table with the cake and other presents and congratulations, and were remembering you and your kindness. It was a wonderful day for us, we went to church and thanked God, that he gave us such a long life.

Just yesterday arrived a lovely enormous long letter from Mrs. Sybil Rimmer. Many thanks for it, it was very interesting reading it and our imaginations went to England for a while to see the country, the garden and house Mrs. Rimmer is living in, her family, little Peter fishing—the camp she lived before with her international neighbours association.

We got a very early winter this year, this morning it had 17 deg. C. below freezing point. Everything is covered with plenty of snow and the birds have a hard life. Many thanks again to all of you.

Yours,

Peter and Maria Zisler.

40TH

BIRTHDAY

A FORM OF SERVICE OF THANKS-
GIVING AND REDEDICATION FOR
THE 40th BIRTHDAY YEAR IS NOW
AVAILABLE FROM TOC H WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION, CRUTCHED FRIARS
HOUSE, LONDON, E.C.3, PRICE
£1 15s. PER 100, 4/6d. PER DOZEN,
OR 6d. FOR A SINGLE COPY, PLUS
POSTAGE.

VISIT TO THE MANSION HOUSE

The General Secretary of Toc H Women's Association and the Editor of THE LOG attended a meeting of the Royal London Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society in February. The meeting, at the Mansion House, was held by the Society's President and Principal Sponsor, the Lord Mayor of London, and was called to discuss development plans. At the meeting, it was shown how important it is for discharged prisoners to have a home from which to take up normal life again, the Society intends to have four hostels for this purpose, opening one at a time. They would also like eighty people of experience to become Associates—to act as level-headed, knowledgeable friends of the discharged prisoners.

- Miss A. B. S. Macfie, Founder Pilot, Crutched Friars House,
London, E.C.3.
Miss M. Fowler, General Secretary, Crutched Friars House,
London, E.C.3.
Mrs. D. A. V. Worth, Overseas Secretary, Crutched Friars House,
London, E.C.3.
Mrs. D. A. Sheppard, B.A., Headquarters Pilot, Crutched Friars
House, London, E.C.3.
Miss H. Benbow, Birthday Scheme Secretary, 15 Trinity Square,
London, E.C.3.
Miss C. M. Lee, Schools' Secretary, Crutched Friars House,
London, E.C.3.

EASTERN REGION

North & East Anglia

Miss M. Oxenford, 6 Sandhurst Avenue, Ipswich, Suffolk.

LONDON & HOME COUNTIES REGION

East London, North & West London, Home Counties, Beds. and Herts.

Staff: Miss E. Perrin, 39 Elmar Road, Tottenham, N.15.
(Stamford Hill 2605.)

South London

Staff: Mrs. D. A. Sheppard, B.A., Crutched Friars House,
London, E.C.3.

N. & E. MIDLANDS REGION

North & East Midlands, Oxford & Thames Valley

c/o Crutched Friars House, London, E.C.3.

NORTHERN REGION, N. IRELAND and SCOTLAND

Northern Area, Northern Ireland, Scotland

Staff: Miss F. Beeton, 25 Montpelier, Edinburgh, 10.
(Fountainbridge 1830.)

NORTH WESTERN REGION

Manchester & N. Western

Staff: Mrs. Davidson, Cross Cottage, 8 Mill Brow, Kirkby
Lonsdale, via Carnforth, Lancs.

SOUTH EASTERN REGION

Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight Districts

Staff: Miss R. Relf, M.B.E., 22 Mountfield Gardens,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent. (Tunbridge Wells 904.)

SOUTHERN REGION

Southern, South-Western, Channel Islands

Staff: Miss A. Welford, B.A., Sunnycote, Lymington, nr.
Exmouth, Devon. (Exmouth 3145.)

SOUTH WALES and MONMOUTHSHIRE

Staff: Miss M. E. Davies, 16 Flaxland Avenue, Heath.
Cardiff. (Cardiff 35412.)

WESTERN AREA

Staff: Miss M. Davis, 103 Monks Park Avenue, Horfield,
Bristol, 7. (Bristol 692431.)

LINCOLNSHIRE, NOTTS. & DERBY AND YORKSHIRE AREAS

c/o Crutched Friars House, London, E.C.3.

WEST MIDLANDS and N. WALES and BORDER AREAS

Staff: Miss P. W. Wolfe, Flat 4, 77 Wellington Road,
Birmingham, 20. (Birchfields 5209.)

TOC H WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION

A World-Wide Christian
Movement

Endeavours to conquer hate
and to restore fellowship
broken by ignorance and
suspicion.

* * *

Offers many and varied
opportunities for voluntary
service.

* * *

Welcomes all kinds of men
and women into its life of
friendship and service.

* * *

Strives to listen to the voice
of God and to do His will.
